

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	High Government Officials	DATE DISTR.	6 March 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

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high government officials in Sofia

- a. Professor Sava Ganovski. a native of Kunino Village. Vratsa Okoliya

Chairman of the Committee for Science, Art, and Culture, which controls the theater, the arts, the sciences, publications, etc., and whose chairman has the rank of a minister and is a member of the Council of Ministers;

- b. (fnu) Georgiev, Chief Public Prosecutor;

- c. Marko Dimitrov. Assistant to the Chief Public Prosecutor (one of several assistants)

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- d. Boris Lozanov, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; a native of Kostin Brod Village, Sofia Okoliya

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- e. Ivan Smasov. Chief of the Personnel Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

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- f. Mladen Kostov, Chief of the Sofia Okrug People's Council

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g. Dr. (fnu) Pashov, Chief of the Sofia City People's Council.²

Comments:

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1. Sava Ganovski has been replaced by Ruben Levi as the President of the Committee for Science, Art, and Culture (FBIS 2 February 1952).

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2. Probably Ivan Pashov is meant, as Mayor of Sofia and a Communist as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Sofia Municipal Council who was succeeded by Dimităr Petrov Popov.

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

SUBJECT Government Buildings in Sofia

DATE DISTR. 6 March 1953

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NO. OF PAGES 2

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The Ministry of Interior

1. The Ministry of Interior is located in the center of Sofia at the corner of Six Septemvriy and Gurko Streets. It is a 3- or 4-story building originally constructed in 1936 or 1937 in the form of the letter "L", the shorter side facing on Six Septemvriy Street, the longer on Gurko Street. The building is constructed of reinforced concrete faced with white stone and has a red tile roof. The main entrance is flanked by square columns and is on Six Septemvriy Street. A park containing the "Sveti Sedmochislenitsi" Church (Church of the Seven Holy Sacraments, literally, Seven Parts) is just south of the Ministry and across General Parensov Street.
2. In about 1949 a third wing was started and is now nearly completed. This wing faces General Parensov Street. Consequently, the new shape of the Ministry is that of the letter "U". The inner court formed by the "U" has been made into a garden.
3. The Ministry is guarded by a special military unit.¹ Entrance into the building is permitted only upon showing a special permit.²

State Security Headquarters

4. The State Security Headquarters is located south of Sofia's Main Railroad Station, at the northwestern corner of the intersection of Slivnitsa and Georgi Dimitrov Boulevards, and 30 to 40 meters opposite the Liovov (Lion) Bridge, which crosses the Vladayska Canal. The space in front of the building is also known as the Liovov Bridge Square.

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5. The State Security Headquarters was originally built by the Communists in 1921 or 1922 to serve as a club. It is constructed of reinforced concrete.
6. Entrance into the building is permitted only upon showing a special permit. The building is guarded by a special military unit.¹

The Ministry of Justice and the Palace of Justice

7. The Ministry of Justice occupies the fifth floor of the Palace of Justice which faces on Stalin Boulevard and is flanked by Alabinska and Pozitano Streets, in the center of Sofia. The Palace of Justice was completed in 1942 and contains all the Sofia courts, that is, the Supreme Court and the Sofia Okrug and Okoliya Courts. There is a total of 22 courtrooms.

The Law School

8. The Law School is part of the University of Sofia and is housed in the main building of the University which covers the entire city block bounded by Ruski, Konstantin Stoilov, and Nikolay Nikolayevich Boulevards, and Shipka Street, near the center of the city. The University Building is a 4- or 5-story building of reinforced concrete. It was constructed during the period 1932 - 1935, and is currently being enlarged.

Comments:

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the State Security Headquarters was moved, in 1951, from the building near Livov Bridge, to the Ministry of Interior.

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. The Judicial System 2. Current Status of Certain Sofia Judges and Lawyers	DATE DISTR.	6 March 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	5
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THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

1. Bulgaria is administratively subdivided into 11¹ regions (okrugs), which are in turn subdivided into districts (okoliyas), and finally, the districts are composed of townships or municipalities (obshtinas). All of these subdivisions are administered by the Ministry of Interior.
2. The Bulgarian judicial system is based on a system of courts which parallels the administrative subdivision of the country. The highest court in the land is the Supreme Court in Sofia. Subordinate to this are the 11¹ Okrug Courts, and finally, the various Okoliya Courts.
3. The jurisdiction of the various courts is limited by the severity of the sentences they may impose, and as described below. Thus, for example, an okoliya court may not try a case in which the maximum penalty involved is the death sentence, because an okoliya court may impose a sentence no greater than 15 years' imprisonment.

Okoliya Courts

4. The Okoliya Courts handle both civil and criminal cases. In civil cases, the Court is represented by one judge who alone passes judgement. In criminal cases the judge is assisted by two lay members of the court who are selected prior to the trial by the Okoliya or Okrug People's Councils from citizens who are politically pro-Communist in their outlook. This political reliability is the only prerequisite for selection to the post of a lay member of the court. In addition, a public prosecutor also assists in a criminal trial.

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5. Since the end of 1951 a new law has been in effect, empowering the Okoliya Courts to impose sentences of up to 15 years' imprisonment (prior to that the limit was five years) and fines of indefinite amounts (prior to the new law the limit was 200,000 leva, old currency). All Okoliya Court rulings may be appealed at the Okrug Court.

Okrug Courts

6. Okrug Courts handle appeals from the Okoliya Courts, cases concerning retired government employees, divorces, and all political cases. The Court is composed of one judge who is assisted by two lay members of the Court and the Public Prosecutor. In political cases which the government wishes to publicize for one reason or another, there are usually two public prosecutors. The Okrug Court may pass a death sentence. All of its sentences may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court

7. The Supreme Court handles appeals from the Okrug Courts and is also the only court permitted to try judges, public prosecutors, ministers, and National Assembly deputies. The Court is composed of five judges and its sentences cannot be appealed. However, a request for a new trial can be submitted to the Public Prosecutor, who can, then, order a new trial if he believes such a trial is warranted.

The Public Prosecutors

8. There is a Chief Public Prosecutor of the State who is appointed by the National Assembly. He, in turn, appoints the Okrug and Okoliya Public Prosecutors. Okrug Public Prosecutors exercise a certain amount of authority over the Public Prosecutors of the Okoliyas within their Okrugs. All Public Prosecutors are Communists.

Political Views of Judges

9. Although the majority of the judges are Communists, it is possible for a non-Communist to be a judge. However, the presiding Judge in a political case is, without exception, always a Communist.

Public and Secret Trials

10. Trials are conducted both publicly and secretly. Most are conducted publicly, but cases involving controversies between Communists or those in which State secrets must be revealed are, of course, tried privately.

The Lawyers' Collectives

11. Bulgarian lawyers may no longer engage in individual private practice. A law passed late in 1948 requires all lawyers to join the Lawyers' Collectives. These collectives are usually composed of 20 to 25 lawyers who among themselves select a secretary and an assistant secretary. Each collective also has an accountant, a treasurer, typists, janitors, etc. Inasmuch as all lawyers have been screened by special committees, and only those who are found to be reliable, or at least not actually unreliable, are permitted to practise law, the majority of the lawyers practising in Bulgaria today are Communists. There are at present about 35 lawyers' collectives in Sofia. This represents a decrease of some ten collectives in the past two years, caused in part by amalgamations of various collectives, and in part by additional purges of lawyers not considered reliable.
12. A person in need of a lawyer first applies to the secretary of a collective in order to engage a lawyer. The secretary then chooses the lawyer and fixes the fee, which cannot be higher than 6,000 leva (old currency). If, however, the person insists on another lawyer, he may have his way but his fee will be larger than if he takes the secretary's choice. The lawyer retains 60% of his fee while 40% goes to the collective. In defending his client, the lawyer may use all means at his disposal, excepting, however, an attack on socialism.²

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Defense Lawyers for Political Cases

13. A person accused of a political crime against the country cannot select his own lawyer but has a defense attorney assigned to him by the Court. In reality, the State Security passes on the acceptability of the lawyers assigned to defend political offenders. Consequently, defense attorneys in political cases generally end up helping the prosecution instead of the defense. Even in such rare cases when a person accused of a political offense is permitted to hire a lawyer of his own choice, there is little difference in the end result of the performance because most lawyers avoid taking such cases.
14. Some of the lawyers who do defend persons accused of political offenses are:
- a. Svetoslav Keredzhiev;
 - b. Teofil Stoyanov;
 - c. (fnu) Armiyanov;
 - d. (fnu) Lambev; and
 - e. (fnu) Koynov.
- They are all known Communists.
15. Political offenders are much more severely punished than criminals and are also manhandled to a greater degree. In addition, a criminal is given a month in which to appeal his sentence, whereas a political offender is limited to two weeks. Immediately upon the expiration of the period permitted for appeal, the execution of the sentence is initiated if no appeal has been filed.
16. There are prisons in every large Bulgarian city. Most political prisoners are confined in Shumen (Kolarovgrad) and Sliven.

CURRENT STATUS OF CERTAIN SOFIA JUDGES AND LAWYERS

17. [redacted] 25X1
- a. (fnu) Chakirov, Chief Justice of the Sofia Okrug Court until 9 September 1944; since that time he has practiced law; [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
 - b. Nayden Raychev, Chief Justice of the Sofia Okrug Court from 9 September 1944 until 1949; was the presiding judge during the trial of Nikola Petkov; he is currently the Deputy Chief of the Supreme Court;
 - c. Stefan Velichkov, Chief Justice of the Sofia Okrug Court; a well-known Communist;
 - d. Boris Lozanov, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court since 1944; a Communist;³
 - e. (fnu) Avroniev, currently a member of the Supreme Court;⁴
 - f. (fnu) Maleev, currently a member of the Supreme Court;⁵
 - g. Khristo Tasev, Chief of the Sofia Okoliya Court in 1941 and 1942 and at the same time Deputy Chief of the Sofia Okoliya Court; later he was an official in the Ministry of Justice; still later he joined the Communist Party; currently a member of the Committee for Drafting Legislation;
 - h. Vladimir Chavdarov, Chief of the Sofia Okoliya Court in 1943 and 1944; later he moved up to the Sofia Okrug Court; currently a member of the Supreme Court [redacted] 25X1

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i. Vasil Petrov, Deputy Chief of the Sofia Okoliya Court from 1942 to 1946; since 1946 he has been a member of the Sofia Okrug Court; and

j. Boris Partalev [redacted] formerly a judge in Sofia but he lost this position [redacted]

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18.

a. Stoyan Karamikhailov [redacted] still practising law in Sofia;

b. Svetoslav Keredzhiev, a long-time lawyer and a Communist who will take political cases;

c. Teofil Stoyanov, a long-time lawyer and a Communist who will take political cases;

d. (fnu) Armiyanov, a long-time lawyer and a Communist who will take political cases;

e. Petŭr Dimitrov, a long-time lawyer who is a member of the 14th Lawyers' Collective of Sofia;

f. Georgi Khristov, a long-time lawyer who may lately have joined the Communist Party; a member of the 14th Lawyers' Collective of Sofia;

g. Asen Brimchev, a long-time lawyer who is a member of the 14th Lawyers' Collective of Sofia;

h. Vladimir Tumparov, a long-time lawyer;

i. Boris Dimitrov, a long-time lawyer who is a Communist;

j. Kiril Vaklinov, a long-time lawyer;

k. Dimitŭr Karaglyozov [redacted] a native of Sofia who lost his right to practise law; current address and employment unknown; 25X1

l. Kiril Popov [redacted] an Agrarian Union National Assembly Deputy in 1946 and 1947 who was sent to the Belene Forced Labor Camp in 1947 and is still there; 25X1

m. Nikola Bakalov [redacted] a native of Sofia who was formerly a very active member of the Agrarian Union; this resulted in his being sent to the Belene Forced Labor Camp in 1950; 25X1

n. Sotir Mitsakov [redacted] 25X1

o. Atanas Tenishev [redacted]

p. Mikhail Balsamov [redacted]

q. Aleksandŭr Konstantinov [redacted]

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r. Dimităr Mikhailov

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s. Simeon Girkov

t. Petūr Yakimov

Comments:

1. Due to recent administrative changes, Bulgaria now has only ten administrative subdivisions on the Okrug level.

2.

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3.

Boris Simeonov Burov was named Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

4. Probably Boris Georgiev Avroniev, a member of the Supreme Court.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Rebrovo Iron Mine, Sofia Okoliya	DATE DISTR.	10 March 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCE NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1

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1. A small and rather primitive iron mine, worked by about 60 to 65 non-professional miners, has been in operation since approximately 1943 about five kilometers from the Rebrovo Railroad Station (N 42-53, E 23-23), Sofia Okoliya, and about 1.5 kilometers from the Lukovo Railroad Station (now named Vlado Trichkov) (N 42-52, E 23-24). The original proprietor was Khristo Petrov, of Sofia, but the mine has been nationalized.
2. There are two shafts. In one of the shafts limonite and hematite are dug, while in the other barite is mined.
3. The daily production is about one carload of limonite and hematite and about 3,000 kilograms of barite. The ore is transported by horse-drawn wagons to the Lukovo Railroad Station which has two sidings in addition to the 1-track line which runs from Pleven to Sofia.
4. The miners are all farmers from the general vicinity of Rebrovo.

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	The Forced Labor Camp in Gigen Village, Nikopol Okoliya	DATE DISTR.	6 March 1953	
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	NO. OF PAGES	1	
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	
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1. In August 1949 the forced labor camp in Gigen Village (N 43-42, E 24-28), Nikopol Okoliya was composed of two wooden barracks, one of which served as the camp headquarters, the other as barracks for the camp inmates. The camp was located on the southern edge of Gigen and about 120 meters from the Iskŭr River.
2. The camp contained between 450 and 500 inmates who slept on the floor of the barracks and who were used as common laborers in the construction of floor control levees. Each man had an excavation quota of four cubic feet of earth daily. A guard unit of five militiamen acted as a security detail.
3. Another unit of 450 to 500 forced laborers worked in a local stone quarry

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Bulgarian Order of Battle: Military Units in the Sofia Area	DATE DISTR.	10 March 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
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1. An unidentified engineer regiment is quartered on Tottleben Boulevard, in the southwestern section of Sofia. An unidentified antiaircraft regiment has units located at various points around Sofia in such a manner as to encircle it.
2. In 1950 a "special military unit" was formed. It is under the direct control of the Ministry of Interior and is used for special guard duty as follows:
 - a. At the various ministries;
 - b. At the villa of Vulko Chervenkov in Boyana village, southwest of Sofia;
 - c. At the former Royal Palace in Vranja village, east of Sofia; and
 - d. At various government installations in the Sofia area.
3. The uniform worn by the members of this unit is the same as that worn by the regular Army units except that they wear a peak cap of blue felt. The unit is quartered in barracks located west of the Poduene Railroad Station, in Sofia, and in the vicinity of the former Royal Palace, east of Sofia, as well as in tents in Boyana village. 1
4. military barracks located throughout the Sofia area;
 - a. Barracks of an unidentified engineer Regiment, located on Tottleben Boulevard, in the southwestern part of the city;

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- b. Army barracks located near Sofia's central prison, in the northwestern part of the city;
- c. The War College, formerly the Military Academy, on Evlogi Georgiev Boulevard, in the eastern part of the city;
- d. A barracks located on the Sofia-Plovdiv highway opposite the Liberty Park, near the center of the city;
- e. A barracks located six kilometers east of the center of the city, on the Sofia-Plovdiv highway;
- f. A barracks, formerly occupied by the 1 and 6 Infantry Regiments, located at the intersection of Stalin and Patriarch Eftimiy Boulevards;
- g. A barracks adjoining the State Printing House on Cherni Vr'h Boulevard, in the southern part of the city; and
- h. A barracks located one kilometer south of Gorna Banya village, southwest of the city.

1. Comment: Probably a reference to the Vutreshni Voyski.

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